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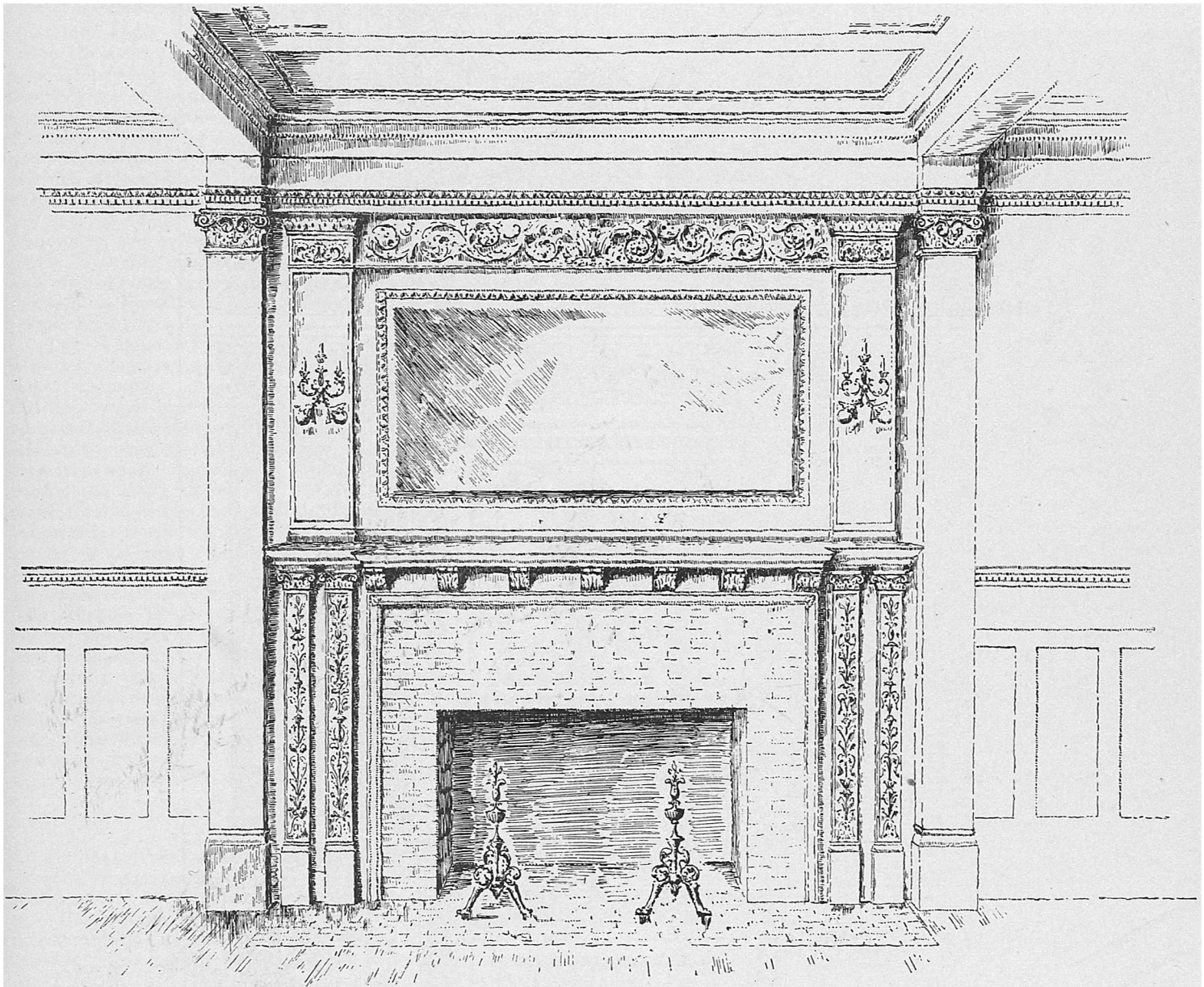
stencil and make the figures nearer together. Lighten the tint of the ceiling still more, and upon it superimpose the light, small stencil. If preferred, only make a ceiling border of the light figure, leaving the remainder plain, with the exception of the centerpiece of the darker color.

It should not be forgotten that the frieze needs to be outlined and emphasized by broad and fine lines of the darker color. With such a scheme, draperies and rugs of warm, dull orange or deep, dull blue, lightened by amber and a touch of garnet, would be admissible.

In the summer, for a country house, deep, dull blue-gray and blue-green, would be cool, restful and serviceable. Then, too, the woodwork might also be painted a blue-gray or blue-green. The rug must then be neutral tinted, the border showing a mixture of brighter colors. All these shades of blue-gray

#### THE LATEST TABLE EFFECTS.

At a soiree lately given at a beautiful French chateau, the mistress of the house, who is always on the lookout for new ideas, inventions and surprises for her guests, had hit upon a most charming device in order to provide every one of us with a dainty souvenir of the evening. Five minutes before the midnight supper was announced the doors of the dining-room were thrown open, and two footmen wheeled into the salons a large cart of silvered rattan, filled to overflowing with bouquets of white and purple violets. Each bouquet was placed in a tiny cornucopia made of fine gold filigree, engraved with the word "Souvenir," followed by the date of the reception. There were a number of young girls at the chateau on that occasion, and it was a delightful sight to watch them as



PARLOR MANTEL IN THE RENAISSANCE STYLE. DESIGNED BY F. C. VANSTONE.

and blue-green are exquisite. They may be delicately combined with many tints.

On such walls as this pictures stand out most beautifully, and flowers, scattered here and there in neutral tinted or crystal vases, seem to have something of the air and space in which they grew.

In such a dining-room crystal, decorated china and silver, look their best. There is no medley of colors to deaden their lustre. In fact, every decoration and accessory is brought out from a background of gray-blue or gray-green. Draperies and pictures will be to such a room like the trimmings upon the elegant, solid, neutral tinted toilet of a well-dressed woman. In nothing does a refined taste show better than in restraint in large masses of color.

they swarmed around the flowery cart to select their share of the fragrant plunder.

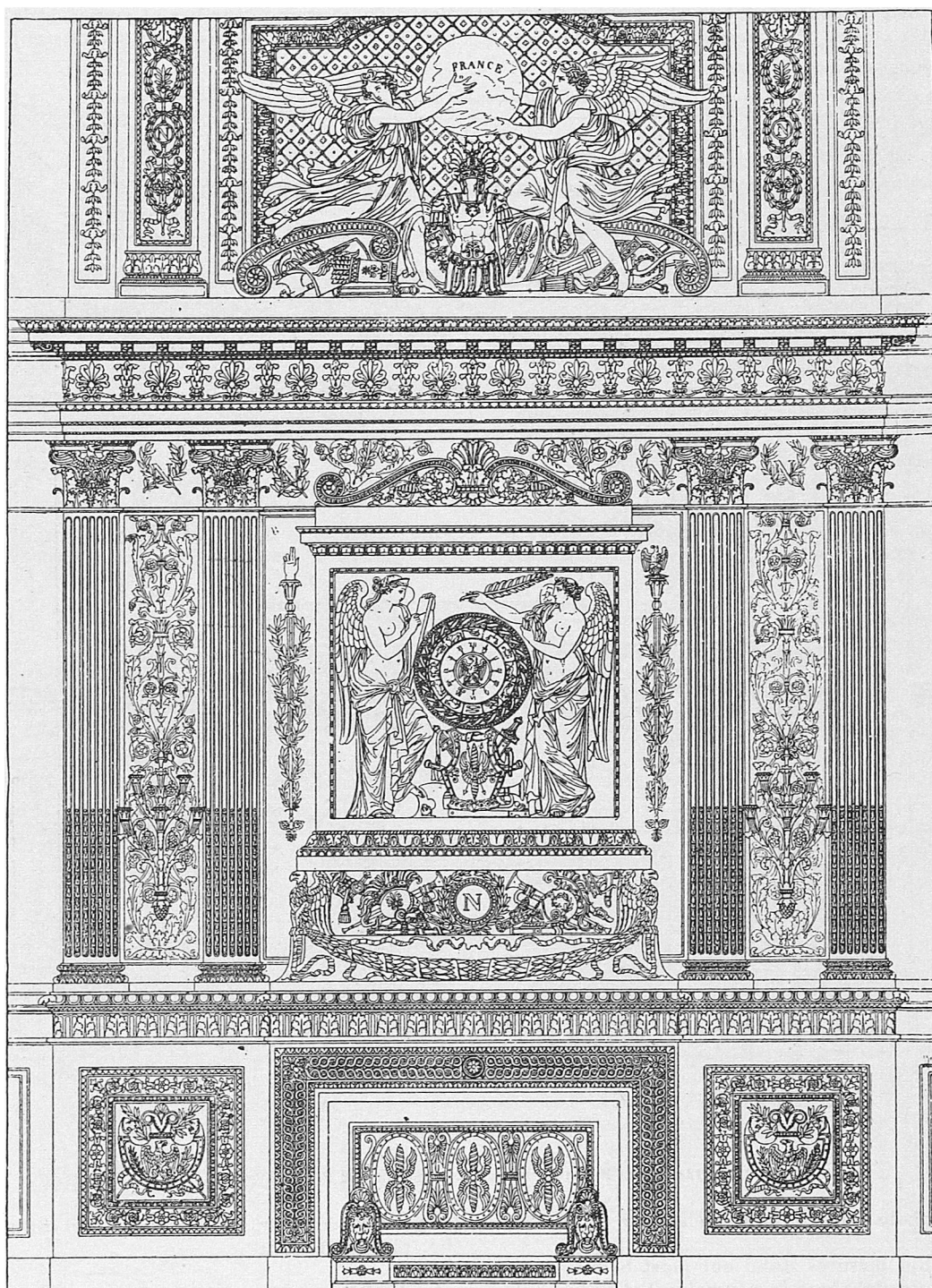
A VERY pretty way of serving a ball supper or a wedding lunch is to do so "garden fashion." The dining-room in this case is decorated with small fruit trees, such as apple, pear, peach and currant, covered with fruit, and planted in square china or majolica cases. Vines, with luscious grapes hanging from them, form arches, under which are placed small tables of polished Vienna wood. No cloth is laid, and the plates of gaily painted faience, the Bohemian glasses, and the artistic oxydized silver forks, knives and spoons, are set directly on the wood. In the middle of each table is a small cask of cut crystal, filled with iced champagne, surmounted by a cluster

# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

of flowers. This genre was introduced in Paris some time ago and found great favor. But, of course, it was rather expensive in mid-winter to thus provide one's guests with an opportunity to pluck their dessert from the branches of the trees whereon it has grown, and, although several horticulturalists make the production of these dwarf trees a specialty, they charge neat prices for them.

THE menu of a late Parisian wedding breakfast was a poem in itself, and consisted, to begin with, of oysters served in the manner which is now the *dernier cri*, namely: the oysters are brought into the dining-room unopened in rush

flavored with maraschino, and a mysterious mixture of huge strawberries and Russian violets which must remain unequalled in the annals of gastronomy. There was also a "cup" made of Spanish wine, champagne and Haut-Sauterne, pineapple juice and a slight dash of kummel, which was much appreciated. I say nothing of the dainty decoration of the little tables whereon all these delicacies were served, although the table cloths and napkins of silk-batiste embroidered in silver, the rock crystal service and corbeilles of orangebuds and white heather well deserve a separate description. Each lady received as a wedding favor a tiny Cinderella-like mother-of-pearl slipper filled with white violets, and the men a buttonhole bouquet of the same



MANTELPiECE IN THE APARTMENT OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON IN THE TUILERIES. ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF EMPIRE DECORATION. DESIGNED BY PERCIER.

baskets decorated with damp seaweed. They are then opened by the servants and handed around in all their full freshness before they have lost one whit of their delicate flavor. Following the delicious bivalves and some excellent bouillon de gibier were little patties of cray-fish, a salad of Russian sterlet, truffled filets of pheasant served in jelly, African ortolans stuffed with pistachios, a macedoine of fresh fruit iced to a turn and

fragrant blossoms. Instead of the ponderous wedding cake, so British in its top-heavy gorgeousness, a tiny little structure of sugar and candied fruit, shaped like a diminutive mediæval tower, was placed before each guest.—*Vogue*.

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